

NEIGHBORS OF DROWNED BOY ASK FOR GUARD OR FILLING OF SUMP

Temperature Hits 97, Hottest In U. S.

143 Residents Sign Petition

Desert Wind Brings Smog, Heat to City

Sweating Torrance residents, who had the dubious distinction of being the hottest and most smog-beset in the nation last week, can look forward to more of the same today. But tomorrow, things should start improving, the Weather Bureau reported.

The mercury zoomed to 97 here yesterday, Thursday and Friday and a brown smog pall hung over the city, in an unusual reversal of the usual wind currents in the area.

Sea Breezes Gone

An official of the Air Pollution Control District said that the usual cooling sea breezes had become becalmed and were replaced by hot northeast winds from the desert.

The result was that Torrance was not only hotter than Los Angeles, which is unusual, but got the smog which usually hovers over Los Angeles. While Los Angeles was enjoying smog-free days, Torrance was choking and weeping and most local residents felt that Los Angeles could have their smog back.

Hottest In History

The hot spell was the hottest in history for this time in November, weather officials reported. Besides the three 97-degree days yesterday, Thursday, and Friday, the thermometer hit 94 on Wednesday.

At this time of the year, Torrance usually is enjoying 60 and 70-degree temperatures.

While Torrance was sweating in 97-degree heat, such famed hot spots as Needles and Victorville had only 78.

Crowds jammed Torrance Beach and other South Bay beaches throughout the hot spell.

Council Tables Fireworks Ban

A proposed ordinance which would outlaw the sale of fireworks in Torrance was tabled by the City Council, Wednesday night, until the Council has a chance to talk the matter over with Fire Chief J. J. Benner, who recommended adoption of the restrictive law.

Under the provisions of the ordinance recommended by Benner, fireworks in the city would be limited to professionally prepared displays or exhibits conducted by a licensed pyrotechnician.

Opposition to the ordinance has been expressed by members of the American Legion, Scout organizations, and service clubs who sell safe and san fireworks here each July.

Mayor Goes To Memphis

For Memphis, the mayor will present the city's case before the judging panel of the All America Cities contest sponsored annually by the American Municipal Assn. and Look magazine.

With the mayor goes a selection of the nearly 20,000 letters received from Torrance industries, residents, and school children expounding reasons why "I Like Torrance."

Torrance is one of the 22 cities remaining in the competition. Only one other California city, Oakland, is in the finals. Eleven cities will be chosen, the winners being announced early next year.

The Only Paper Blanketing All Sections of Torrance plus Lomita, Harbor City and Adjacent City and County Areas

Torrance Herald

SUNDAY and Thursday

News & Adv. FA 8-4000
42nd Year—No. 91

OFFICE AND PLANT AT 1619 GRAMERCY AVE., TORRANCE

Circulation FA 8-4004

TORRANCE, CALIFORNIA, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1956

10¢ Per Copy 12 PAGES

Highway Group Pushes Freeway

Active efforts to get an additional east-west highway between the present state routes of Manchester and Artesia were recommended at a meeting of the Intercity Highway Committee in Hermosa Beach Thursday night.

The committee, which is composed of representatives of Torrance, Redondo Beach, Palos Verdes Estates, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, and El Segundo, voted to send delegates to a future meeting of the Imperial Highway Assn. in an effort to combine the two groups in their efforts for another major east-west artery.

Other Recommendations

A number of other recommendations were adopted by the group, with major emphasis on the elimination of traffic bottlenecks in the area of the aircraft plants and the international airport along Sepulveda. In this connection, the group asked to have work on a free-turn right turn lane for northbound traffic on Sepulveda at Century be speeded, and that lighting, ventilation, and striping of the tunnel under the airport be improved.

Top emphasis of the group is still being placed on the San Diego Freeway, which will greatly alter traffic flows in the entire Torrance-South Bay area. Plans to seek additional appropriations for the freeway in the 1958-59 budget are being studied by a committee of the group headed by Torrance Councilman Nicholas O. Drale.

To Seek Funds
"It's quite obvious" members of the committee were told Thursday, "that this is a forgotten area. All of the freeway funds are being poured into the San Fernando Valley area."

The group agreed to open a campaign to make the needs of this area known in Sacramento through contacts with Assemblymen and other officials.

Change Recommended
Recommended for approval was a change of zone to unlimited commercial on a nine-acre tract on land at the northwest corner of Madrona and Sepulveda Blvd.

A change of zone was recommended from multi-family residential to single-family residential on land on Dalemead St., south of Pacific Coast Hwy. and east of Crenshaw Blvd.

A request for change of zone for construction of four-family residential units at the corner of Redondo Beach Blvd. and Ainsworth Ave. was sent to a committee, headed by Commissioner John Mulvihill.

Board Fetes Late Builder

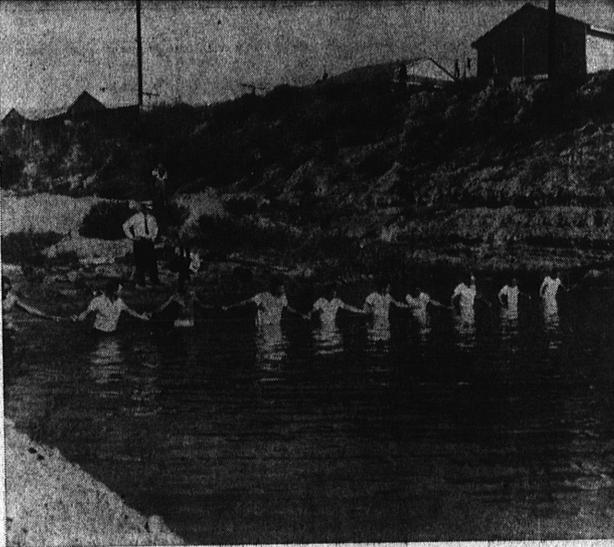
This week's meeting of the Board of County Supervisors was adjourned with a tribute to the memory of Milton Kauffman, prominent builder and developer, who died last Sunday.

Supervisor Kenneth Hahn introduced the motion for adjournment in memory of Mr. Kauffman, who headed the Kauffman-Wilson construction organization of Gardena at the time of his death.

During his career Mr. Kauffman built 20,000 homes, many of them in the Torrance and Gardena areas.

Local Jim Dandy Stores to Stay Open Tomorrow

Jim Dandy Markets at 2515 Torrance Blvd., and 24911 South Western Ave. in Lomita will be open Veteran's Day, Monday, Nov. 12, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. In addition the two local area stores will be open their usual Sunday shopping hours. A Jim Dandy advertisement appears in today's HERALD.



CHAIN FINDS BODY . . . A chain of firemen, County lifeguards, and police officers waded into the icy waters of the huge drainage sump in West Torrance where they found the body of 3-year-old John James Williams who had been missing from his home for more than an hour. Neighbors started a drive to end the sump nuisance after the lad drowned.



MOTHER HELPED . . . Fireman Howard Schneider and a friend help the mother of John James Williams away from the scene of the tragedy after lifeguards, police, and firemen had found his body in the sump in West Torrance this week.

Garden Hose Floods Home

Juvenile vandals are believed responsible for several hundred dollars worth of damage caused by flooding of a local home Thursday.

Mrs. Verda Allison of 1420 Crenshaw Blvd. said she returned home from work to find that a garden hose had been put through a bedroom window.

Water from the hose flooded a bed and the floor to a depth of several inches.

Petitions with at least 143 signatures are being readied for presentation to the City Council Tuesday night asking for quick remedy to the dangerous sump situation in west Torrance.

The petition will ask that action be taken to fill the sump which cost the life of a small boy Thursday, or post an armed guard on it at all times as it "endangers the life of the children of the community."

One resident of the area told the HERALD Saturday that children are able to go over the fence at most spots and under the gates, even if closed.

Safeguards Needed
"Kids will get in if the best possible safeguards are not provided," another mother of four said.

One mother, who lives adjacent to the sump, said she was told that the sump was just placed there until the drains could be completed from the area to the ocean. Even a call to the city hall confirmed that the sump would be there only a short while, she claims.

"What I didn't realize then is that a 'short while' can mean 25 years to officials," the housewife said.

Park Promised
"We could have bought a house elsewhere, but they told us the sump would be a park in another year," a neighbor reported.

A large delegation of residents from the Southwood area, neighbors of the 3-year-old John James Williams who drowned in the huge sump Thursday, plan to attend the Council meeting Tuesday to present their petition to the city.

Not Like Airplane
"This light didn't act like any airplane I've ever seen," Mrs. Smith reported.

Others in the group who saw the first light were Mrs. Charles Rice, 4217 W. 172nd St.; Mrs. Ishmeal Ruskit, 4229 W. 172nd St.; Mrs. Al Schemanas, 4225 W. 172nd St., and Mrs. Preston Bennett, 4208 W. 172nd St.

They variously described the color of the light as yellowish, greenish, and reddish. The women had gathered outside their homes to watch for a mysterious space ship that believers in flying saucers had announced would make its appearance that evening.

3 Nabbed in Strong-Arm Robbery Here

Sheriff's deputies apprehended an Inglewood trio Friday night, shortly after a 46-year-old Claremont man reported to Torrance police that he had been beaten and robbed by three people he met in a bar.

Barral N. Davis, 48, Claremont, reported that the trio—two men and a woman—had offered him a ride to Los Angeles from a Lennox bar. Instead, he reported, they took him to 187th and Prairie Ave., where the beat him, took \$150 and a gold ring from him, and threw his shoes away.

The trio—Johnny Wayne and Veda Mae Shannon, both 23, Inglewood and George Rose 23, San Pedro, were halted by deputies as they pulled into the Inglewood trailer court where the Shannons live. Deputies said the ring, \$69, and a set of brass knuckles were found in the car.

Rose fled, deputies said, but was apprehended shortly afterwards by deputies, who chased him. The three were held for Torrance police, after Davis identified them.

Temperatures

Torrance's temperatures for the past week, as recorded at the main fire station, were as follows:

	High	Low
Sunday	71	39
Monday	72	38
Tuesday	87	44
Wednesday	94	47
Thursday	97	50
Friday	97	54
Saturday	97	again

Police Welcome Christmas Early

Christmas came early for the Torrance Police Dept. on Thursday.

That's when John H. Christmas, 39, a transient from Northgate, N.D., asked for permission to sleep in the local jail.

Christmas was bade welcome.